

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**Before the**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**Release No. 96067 / October 13, 2022**

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING**  
**File No. 3-21209**

**In the Matter of**

**GILBERTO LOPEZ,**

**Respondent.**

**ORDER INSTITUTING  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,  
MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING  
REMEDIAL SANCTIONS**

**I.**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) against Gilberto Lopez (“Respondent” or “Lopez”).

**II.**

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the “Offer”) which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, Respondent admits the Commission’s jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraph III.2 below and consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions (“Order”), as set forth below.

### III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds that:

1. Lopez was a resident of Spring, Texas, and worked in the Houston office of Stanford Financial Group ("SFG") as its Chief Accounting Officer and also for its affiliate, Stanford Financial Group Global Management, LLC ("SFGGM"). From September 1997 to February 2009, he provided accounting services to many entities under the control of Robert Allen Stanford, who owned SFG, SFGGM, Stanford Group Company ("SGC"), which was a registered broker-dealer and investment adviser, and Stanford International Bank, Ltd. ("SIB"). Lopez, 79 years old, is currently in custody at the San Antonio Residential Reentry Management Center.
2. On November 19, 2012, Lopez, under the name Gilbert T. Lopez, Jr., was convicted by a jury on ten counts of mail fraud and conspiracy to commit mail fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2, 1343, and 1349 in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, in *United States v. Gilbert T. Lopez, Jr.*, Case No. 4:09-CR-342-3. On February 22, 2013, a judgment in the criminal case was entered against Lopez. He was sentenced to a prison term of 240 months followed by three years of supervised release and ordered to forfeit \$2,034,065,453.
3. The counts of the criminal indictment on which Lopez was convicted alleged that Lopez defrauded investors by inducing the purchase of SIB CDs through material misrepresentations concerning the strategy, nature, and performance of SIB's investment portfolio. Among other things, the counts of the criminal indictment alleged that Lopez misrepresented:
  - (1) "SIB's investment strategy as investing in a well-diversified portfolio of highly marketable securities in order to 'minimize risk and achieve liquidity,' when, in truth and in fact, a substantial portion of SIB's investment portfolio consisted of risky and illiquid investments, such as private equity investments and unsecured and undisclosed loans to Stanford";
  - (2) the nature of SIB's assets by representing that "SIB's entire investment portfolio was invested in assets consisting of stocks, bonds, foreign currencies, and other financial assets, when, in truth and in fact, SIB had invested only a fraction of the portfolio in such assets while a substantial portion of SIB's investment portfolio consisted of risky and illiquid investments, such as private equity investments and unsecured and undisclosed loans to Stanford";
  - (3) SIB's use of the CD proceeds by representing that "SIB did not expose its depositors to the risks associated with commercial loans, and that SIB's only form of lending was to existing SIB depositors and only on a cash-secured basis, when, in truth and in fact, SIB made substantial unsecured and undisclosed

loans to Stanford, who used the money to fund his personal business ventures, to live a lavish lifestyle, and for other improper purposes”;

(4) the performance of SIB’s investments by “reporting falsified and inflated revenue figures, in order to deceive existing and potential SIB depositors into believing that SIB’s investments were performing as represented”;

(5) Stanford’s loan repayments by “engaging in sham transactions that artificially inflated the value of certain assets being transferred back to SIB from Stanford as partial repayment of the loans”; and

(6) Stanford’s capital contributions to SIB by representing “that Stanford made certain capital contributions to SIB, when, in truth and in fact, Stanford did not make such capital contributions.”

Lopez was also convicted for what the criminal indictment alleged was his participation in “a series of sham transactions between SIB and various Stanford controlled entities that would result in real estate purchased by SIB for \$63.5 million being revalued at \$3.2 billion, in an attempt to falsely indicate that Stanford had: (1) repaid over \$1.7 billion in loans from SIB and (2) made over \$741 million in capital contributions to SIB.”

#### IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanctions agreed to in Respondent Lopez’s Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Respondent Lopez be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker or dealer; and

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act Respondent Lopez be, and hereby is barred from participating in any offering of a penny stock, including: acting as a promoter, finder, consultant, agent or other person who engages in activities with a broker, dealer or issuer for purposes of the issuance or trading in any penny stock, or inducing or attempting to induce the purchase or sale of any penny stock.

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, compliance with the Commission’s order and payment of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement or civil penalties ordered by a Court against the Respondent in any action brought by the Commission; (b) any disgorgement amounts ordered against the Respondent for which the Commission waived payment; (c) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (d) any self-regulatory organization arbitration award to a customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as

the basis for the Commission order; and (e) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman  
Secretary